

**RESOLUTION NO. 2008-1090
OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF
THE TRABUCO CANYON WATER DISTRICT
CALLING FOR THE ADOPTION OF MORE CONCERTED
VOLUNTARY WATER CONSERVATION BY
ORANGE COUNTY RESIDENTS AND BUSINESSES**

WHEREAS, Orange County depends on imported water from Northern California and the Colorado River to meet approximately half of its supply demand with the balance of the county's demand being met by local groundwater via a large basin under north and central Orange County, smaller basins in south Orange County, and through local water recycling and conservation; and

WHEREAS, water supplies from Northern California have been severely impacted by dry conditions, lower-than-normal snow pack, and environmental constraints in the Sacramento San Joaquin Bay-Delta region (Bay-Delta); and

WHEREAS, a recent federal court ruling has restricted pumping by at least 30% from the Bay-Delta, source of water to 25 million Californians, to protect the endangered Delta Smelt and has further compounded the difficulties of providing water to the most populous regions of the state; and

WHEREAS, the impact of the Delta Smelt ruling will require even greater withdrawals from water storage reserves to offset water lost as a result of the ruling; and

WHEREAS, water supply solutions to the current regulatory pumping restrictions in the Bay-Delta may take many years to approve and complete; and

WHEREAS, significant study by the Public Policy Institute of California and the Governor's Blue Ribbon Delta Vision Task Force has pointed to the conclusion that the current Delta water delivery system is not sustainable due to seismic and flood risks, subsidence and sea level rise, ecosystem conflicts, and numerous other factors; and

WHEREAS, the Colorado River system is now in its eighth year of drought and southern California has experienced significant reductions in available Colorado River supply since 2003; and

WHEREAS, throughout the State water reserves are being drawn out of storage from reservoirs and from underground basins to meet consumer demand for water; and

WHEREAS, Orange County's large north and central groundwater basin is being drawn down both to lessen the demand on diminished imported supplies and due to the local drought conditions, which have reduced the amount of Santa Ana River flow and rain water available to refill the basin; and

WHEREAS, the cities and water agencies serving Orange County’s population of more than 3.1 million have done an outstanding job working together to develop water-management strategies and implement comprehensive conservation programs to help ensure a reliable supply of high-quality water to meet countywide demand; and

WHEREAS, many cities and water agencies serving Orange County have also invested and continue to invest in research and technology to develop new sources of water such as water recycling and desalination to meet demands; and

WHEREAS, Orange County residents and businesses are to be commended for doing their part over the past decade to voluntarily reduce their water usage by participating in locally sponsored conservation and water efficiency programs; and

WHEREAS, if prolonged drought conditions continue along the Colorado River, pumping of water through the Bay-Delta is significantly curtailed, and local drought conditions prevail, mandatory water conservation measures may become necessary; and

WHEREAS adopting more aggressive voluntary water conservation habits today is the responsible thing to do and will help ensure Orange County has enough water to maintain our quality of life and thriving economy; and

WHEREAS, there are numerous resources and programs to assist us in our countywide water conservation efforts, including rebates for water saving devices and information on water-saving strategies at www.bewaterwise.com, www.tcwd.ca.gov, www.mwdoc.com, www.ocwaterhero.com;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Trabuco Canyon Water District does hereby encourage every Orange County water agency, resident and business to immediately take steps to reduce their water usage through more concerted water conservation, with an overall regional goal of a 10 percent reduction, which will help the region get through this very dry time and regulatory reduction in State Water Project supply, extend available water reserves, and help reduce the severity of potential water shortages in the future; and

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Trabuco Canyon Water District urges state leaders to move expeditiously to implement a comprehensive, long-term solution to the Delta’s broken water delivery system before further damage is done to the State’s water supply, economy, and environment; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Trabuco Canyon Water District encourages all local water agencies, cities, and the County of Orange to join in this call for voluntary water conservation and support the implementation of a comprehensive, long-term Delta solution through the adoption of appropriate resolutions or ordinances in their jurisdictions.

ADOPTED, SIGNED AND APPROVED THIS 20th day of February, 2008.

TRABUCO CANYON WATER DISTRICT

By: _____
President/Vice President

By: _____
Secretary